

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status of the Claims

Upon entry of the present response, claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 14-19 are withdrawn as directed to a non-elected invention.

Response to Restriction Requirement

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-13, drawn to a method of ameliorating an anxiety response in a mammal, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present claims relate to a single inventive concept, namely the use of inhibiting ST8Sia-II sialyltransferase activity for ameliorating an anxiety response.

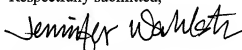
Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's assessment of Charter, *et al.*, *J. Biol Chem* (2002) 277(11):9255-61 ("Charter"). There is absolutely no disclosure in Charter regarding the connection between inhibiting ST8Sia-II sialyltransferase activity and ameliorating an anxiety response. Instead, Charter discloses the effect of inhibiting polysialic acid (PSA) synthesis on reducing neurite outgrowth. The present invention is directed to a new use for inhibitors of ST8Sia-II sialyltransferase activity.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, examination at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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